Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

No. G. 4098-106—G. M. 286-2, DATED BANGALORE, 11TH JANUARY 1905.

ORDER.—Appenped hereto is a copy of the revised rules (and its accompaniments) regarding the decipherment and publication of Indian inscriptions on stone and copper and the custody thereof, received with the First Assistant to the Hon'ble the Resident's letter No. 6304, dated the 16th December 1904. These rules will be substituted for those communicated in Government Proceedings No. 6597-605—G. 1529, dated the 27th September 1893.

2. All discoveries of inscriptions in the State should be reported to the Director of Archæological Researches in Mysore.

B. K. VENKATA VARADA IYENGAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Dept.

To—The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Director of Archæological Researches in Mysore.

Rules regarding the decipherment and publication of Indian inscriptions on stone and copper and regarding their custody.

I. The discovery of any inscription should at once be reported in the accompanying form to the Archæological Officer of the province in which it is found, or, if there is no provincial Archæological Officer, to the Director General of Archæology. Full particulars should be given as to the disposal of the inscription pending further instructions; and, if it is not the property of Government or cannot be placed in the custody of Government officers, report should be made as to what steps are being or can be taken to secure either the original or an impression of it. If possible an impression of the inscription should be obtained according to the directions contained in the accompanying memorandum and forwarded along with the report.

II. The Archæological Officer on receiving news of any discovery should immediately report the find and its character to the Director General of Archæology, suggesting the best arrangement for its decipherment, whether by himself, by reference to a European scholar, or in any other way, and forwarding, if possible, preliminary copies.

III. It will be open to the Director General of Archæology on receiving the report referred to in rule II, to require that the decipherment of the inscription be made by such agency as he thinks fit; but in the absence of good reason to the contrary (which should be explained to the Local Government), preference will be given to the Epigraphist of the province in which the inscription has been discovered.

IV. In the absence of special orders, all epigraphical matter will be published in the *Epigraphia Indica* or, in certain cases, in the Annual Report of the Archæological Survey of India, but manuscript copies, impressions, squeezes, etc., of inscriptions may, prior to publication in India, be submitted to scholars in Europe for information as well as for advice or decipherment. It must, however, be made clear, in such cases, that the inscriptions are not to be published *in extenso* in Europe prior to their appearance in the *Epigraphia Indica* or in the Archæological Reports. There will be no objection, however, to brief announcements of interesting discoveries or short preliminary notices of their character being made in European Journals, etc.

V. The local Archæological Officer will, in the case of both stone and copper inscriptions, forward two good ink-impressions to the Director General of Archæology who will transmit them to the Editor of the *Epigraphia Indica*. This rule is framed in order to enable the Editor to check the transcripts contributed by authors of papers, and to select those inscriptions, the texts of which deserve to be accompanied by *fac simile* plates.

VI. The Editor will, as soon as possible after receipt of impressions or plates, return to the sender a short abstract of the contents of each inscription.

VII. Inscriptions attached to buildings or monuments ought on no account to be separated from them, unless for some special reason, such as risk of their being lost or destroyed.

VIII. Care should be taken to retain for deposit in some selected museum, all moveable originals which belong to, or are acquired by, the Local Government.

The museum selected will ordinarily be that of the province in which the inscription was discovered. Exception may be made to this rule when the storage of the inscriptions elsewhere is found to be advisable in order to complete an already existing collection, or for other special reasons.